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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/914,648	01/17/2002	Philippe Derouault	Q65500	9650

7590

07/07/2003

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EXAMINER

DAVIS, ROBERT B

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

1722

DATE MAILED: 07/07/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/914,648

Applicant(s)

DEROUAULT ET AL.

Examiner

Robert B. Davis

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-3 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 4-8 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 17 January 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.
- If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
- a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other:

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Objections

1. Claims 4-8 are objected to under 37 CFR 1.75(c) as being in improper form because a multiple dependent claim cannot depend upon another multiple dependent claim. See MPEP § 608.01(n). Accordingly, the claims 4-8 have not been further treated on the merits.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 1-3 are allowed over the prior art of record.

3. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: None of the prior art of record teaches or suggests a molding unit for an extrusion blow molding machine comprising: a mold in two parts, each mold-half being borne by a movable support, in which the two movable supports are moved transversely, in opposite directions with respect to the frame that bears them, between an open position in which the mold-halves are separated to allow insertion of a blank of the article in a cavity, and a closed position in which the two mold-halves are pressed against each other and in which the supports are connected to each other by a screw means, in which the molding unit has a mechanism of simultaneous movement of the two supports of the molds, between at least one of the mold-halves and the associated support, compensating means which push the mold-half transversely toward the other mold-half, characterized in that the mechanism for moving the supports is linked to at least said associated support, by means of elastically deformable means that are suitable for compensating for the deformation of the support created by the forces

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exerted by the compensating means. The closest prior art (Mehnert 3,924,987) teaches mold-halves (1a, 1b) connected to supports (3a, 3b) by way of pivot pins (13) to maintain the faces of the mold-halves in the parting plane (7 as shown in figure 2) even though the supports have been bent. The reference further teaches restoring means (14) for returning the mold-halves to a position parallel to the supports upon opening of the mold-halves, but the reference fails to disclose or suggest a mechanism (24) for moving the supports (21) is linked to the support (21) by means of elastically deformable means that compensate for deformation of the support created by forces of the compensating means (30).

Conclusion

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. Talasz (3,734,671) shows another blow mold clamping apparatus that allows pivoting of a pair of support arms (4) relative to a track (10) upon closing forces caused by clamping cylinders (5).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Robert B. Davis whose telephone number is 703-308-2625. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 9-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wanda L. Walker can be reached on 703-308-0457. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9310 for regular communications and 703-872-9311 for After Final communications.

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Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0661.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Davis', with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

Robert B. Davis
Primary Examiner
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6/30/03

June 30, 2003